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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

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1-5-1967

From/To: Lois Taylor (Chalk's reply filed first)

Lois Taylor

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C  
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January 5, 1967

Miss Lois Taylor  
2416 Norris Avenue  
Belpre, Ohio

Dear Lois:

Thank you so much for your letter written immediately after your arrival back in Ohio to teach school. We also deeply appreciated your nice card at Christmas. Unfortunately, I have been completely covered up with work that I haven't had a chance to write you until now. I deeply regret that because my tardy reply to your letter, and tardy reply to your leaving, is no way an indication of what I felt about the work you did while you were here. I went five weeks without a secretary following your departure. I was on the road constantly during all that time and you can imagine how much my mail and other work piled up here at home. It became extremely frustrating before I was able to get a secretary.

I do hope you are enjoying your work with the school. I know it was a drastic change to make, but I also know of no one better able to make the change than yourself. Sue and I send our personal regards and best wishes. It was a pleasure for me to have the opportunity of working with you during the time you were in Abilene. There is no way to adequately thank you for what you did. I am sending this letter along with the name plate you used while here at Highland. You may be able to use it in some other way in your present work, or at some future time. Thank you again for all your help. It was a pleasure to be associated with you.

Your brother in Christ,

John Allen Chalk  
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hm

Box 375  
Middlebourne, West Virginia  
November 24, 1966

Dear John Allen and Sue:

On this, my first opportunity to catch my breath since leaving Abilene, I will try to bring you up to date briefly.

Sister Pauline Harber and I left Abilene on Sunday afternoon, November 6, and arrived at home on Wednesday, Nov. 9. We had a lovely trip, and I enjoyed the scenery as much as was possible even though I drove all but three hours of the trip. (We stopped, of course, of nights.) I reported to Warren High School the next day, and (which didn't surprise me) they asked that I go right to class. So I have been kept busy. I moved in with a dear old sister at Belpre, Ohio, about twelve miles from the school, until I can make more permanent arrangements. So far, I am enjoying the work immensely and find the students cooperative and congenial. I feel sorry for them, because the teacher who had been hired at the first of the year turned out to be an alcoholic, and they have had to "make out" without any real regular teaching except a retired lady who substituted for several weeks. I had to give six weeks tests and grades these past few ~~weeks~~ <sup>days</sup>. Maybe I was rough on them, but at least they couldn't blame their entire grade on me! (Ha!)

It surely is a let-down to see no one except rough, worldly people during the day at school, but on the other hand, it is a God-given opportunity to let my light shine, which I shall do, with His help.

I surely have enjoyed the "White Shoulders" cologne. Thank you both so much. Thanks also, John, for the book and the personal notation which means much. I believe in doing anything I do with my whole soul, mind, and strength--and it's nice to know that you appreciated what little I was able to do for you and the cause of Christ while I was there. I have been reading the book with much relish, and only wonder why the sermons sound so familiar! (Ha.) I pray the work is progressing nicely and that things in the office can soon be settled again to as efficient a routine as possible. I see John preached at Highland a week ago last night (from the "Helper.") I do pray the load at the office isn't bearing too heavily--I know it is a tremendous responsibility, and I hated to leave John "in the lurch," so to speak. But, as I told Clois's secretary, Beverly, I'm a great believer in Romans 8:28. I wish I could have spent more time visiting in your home, but that will be something to work toward and pray toward in the future, God willing.

Excuse Dad's typewriter! I came home after school yesterday, and we are getting ready to go to friends for Thanksgiving dinner. I hope you are able to be together as a family today and enjoy the holiday. Give John and Mary Beth my love, and pray for the cause of Christ in this area. The church is so much at sword's points here over the various issues of our time, and brethren do not love one another as the Lord would wish. I shall look forward eagerly to hearing from you. I am humbly grateful for the opportunities I had to be with all of you. You can write me

either here or at 2416 Norris Avenue, Belpre, Ohio.

On Second thought, I remember that John Allen is to be at the Harding Lectures, at least tomorrow. Anyway, please write, folks, when you can. I really miss Abilene--and yet it is good to be back here. I'll get my first pay check Nov. 30!.

My schedule at school is as follows: Shorthand II, free period, Typing I, study hall, lunch, Shorthand I, Typing I, Business English.

I hope Mary Beth is continuing to enjoy the school there.

Be assured I think of you and pray for you often, and that I have always and shall always continue to admire you and love you both for the Lord's sake.

In Christian love,

*Lois*

Lois